

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.**

1. (Currently amended): A pigment dispersion composition

~~which is~~ prepared by dispersing a pigment using at least one species selected from the group consisting of a pigment derivative, pigment intermediate, colorant derivative and colorant intermediate each having a functional group reactive with a carbodiimide group and having adsorption ability on ~~the pigment~~ a surface of said pigment, and a carbodiimide compound containing at least one carbodiimide group.

2. (Currently amended): The pigment dispersion composition according to Claim 1,

wherein the pigment is dispersed using a mixture comprising said at least one species selected from the group consisting of ~~said~~ a pigment derivative, pigment intermediate, colorant derivative and colorant intermediate, and said carbodiimide compound.

3. (Currently amended): The pigment dispersion composition according to Claim 1,

wherein the pigment is dispersed by using a carbodiimide-based compound ~~introduced with a~~ comprising at least one side chain having pigment adsorption ability ~~within the molecule~~ by reacting said at least one species selected from the group consisting of ~~said~~ a pigment derivative, pigment intermediate, colorant derivative and colorant intermediate with said carbodiimide compound.

4. (Currently amended): The pigment dispersion composition according to Claim 1, wherein said carbodiimide compound ~~contains, within the molecule thereof,~~ comprises at least one side chain selected from the group consisting of a polyester side chain, polyether side chain, polyether polyester side chain, and polyacrylic side chain.

5. (Previously presented): The pigment dispersion composition according to Claim 1, wherein said carbodiimide compound has a carbodiimide equivalent of 100 to 50,000.

6. (Currently amended): The pigment dispersion composition according to Claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said functional group reactive with a carbodiimide group ~~contained in at least one species selected from the group consisting of said pigment derivative, pigment intermediate, colorant derivative and colorant intermediate~~ is at least one selected from the group consisting of a carboxyl group, a sulfonic acid group, ~~or~~ and a phosphoric acid group.

7. (Previously presented): The pigment dispersion composition according to Claim 1, wherein said pigment intermediate is at least one species selected from the group consisting of a naphthoic acid and 2-carboxypyrazine, and said colorant intermediate is a colorant residue having a functional group reactive with a carbodiimide group.

8. (Previously presented): The pigment dispersion composition according to Claim 1, wherein said pigment is at least one pigment selected from the group consisting of a dye chelate pigment, azo pigment, benzimidazolone pigment, phthalocyanine pigment, quinacridone pigment, anthraquinone pigment, dioxazine pigment, indigo pigment, thioindigo pigment, perylene pigment, perinone pigment, diketopyrrolopyrrole pigment, isoindolinone pigment, nitro

pigment, nitroso pigment, anthraquinone pigment, flavanthrone pigment, quinophthalone pigment, pyranthrone pigment, indanthrone pigment, and

said pigment derivative is a derivative of said pigment.

9. (Previously presented): The pigment dispersion composition according to Claim 1, which is prepared by dispersing at least one pigment selected from the group consisting of carbon black and a phthalocyanine pigment using a phthalocyanine pigment derivative having a functional group reactive with a carbodiimide group as said pigment derivative.

10. (Previously presented): A pigment dispersion-based resist composition which contains the pigment dispersion composition according to Claim 1.

11. (Currently amended): A compound for pigment treatment which is a carbodiimide-based compound ~~introduced with~~ comprising a side chain having pigment adsorption ability ~~within the molecule~~ obtained by reacting at least one species selected from the group consisting of a pigment derivative, pigment intermediate, colorant derivative and colorant intermediate each having a functional group reactive with a carbodiimide group and having adsorption ability on ~~the pigment~~ a surface of a pigment, and a carbodiimide compound containing at least one carbodiimide group.

Amendment

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12. (New): A pigment dispersion composition comprising  
a dispersion media and  
a pigment having absorbed on a surface at least one species selected from the group  
consisting of a pigment derivative, pigment intermediate, colorant derivative and colorant  
intermediate, where said at least one species is bonded to a carbodiimide group.

13. (New): A resist composition comprising  
the pigment dispersion of claim 12,  
a film-forming resin,  
a photopolymerizable compound, and  
a photopolymerization initiator.